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1ST SESSION

H. R. 1348

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 14 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 7), 1993

Received; read twice and referred to to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To establish the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
National Heritage Corridor in the State of Connecticut,
and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Quinebaug and
5 Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act
6 of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that:

3 (1) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
4 in the State of Connecticut is one of the last un-
5 spoiled and undeveloped areas in the Northeastern
6 United States and has remained largely intact, in-
7 cluding important aboriginal archaeological sites, ex-
8 cellent water quality, beautiful rural landscapes,
9 architecturally significant mill structures and mill
10 villages, and large acreage of parks and other per-
11 manent open space.

12 (2) The State of Connecticut ranks last among
13 the 50 States in the amount of federally protected
14 park and open space lands within its borders and
15 lags far behind the other northeastern States in the
16 amount of land set-aside for public recreation.

17 (3) The beautiful rural landscapes, scenic vistas
18 and excellent water quality of the Quinebaug and
19 Shetucket Rivers contain significant undeveloped
20 recreational opportunities for people throughout the
21 United States.

22 (4) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
23 is within a 2-hour drive of the major metropolitan
24 areas of New York City, Hartford, Providence,
25 Worcester, Springfield, and Boston. With the Presi-
26 dent's Commission on Americans Outdoors reporting

1 that Americans are taking shorter “closer-to-home”
2 vacations, the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Val-
3 ley represents important close-by recreational oppor-
4 tunities for significant population.

5 (5) The existing mill sites and other structures
6 throughout the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers
7 Valley were instrumental in the development of the
8 industrial revolution.

9 (6) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
10 contains a vast number of discovered and unre-
11 covered Native American and colonial archaeological
12 sites significant to the history of North America and
13 the United States.

14 (7) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
15 represents one of the last traditional upland farming
16 and mill village communities in the northeastern
17 United States.

18 (8) The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
19 played a nationally significant role in the cultural
20 evolution of the prewar colonial period. Leading the
21 transformation from Puritan to Yankee, the “Great
22 Awakening” religious revival and early political de-
23 velopment leading up to and during the War of
24 Independence.

1 (9) Many local, regional and State agencies,
2 businesses, and private citizens and the New Eng-
3 land Governors' Conference have expressed an over-
4 whelming desire to combine forces: to work coopera-
5 tively to preserve and enhance resources region-wide
6 and better plan for the future.

7 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET**
8 **RIVERS VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE COR-**
9 **RIDOR; PURPOSE.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established in
11 the State of Connecticut the Quinebaug and Shetucket
12 Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor.

13 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to pro-
14 vide a management framework to assist the State of Con-
15 necticut, its units of local and regional government and
16 citizens in the development and implementation of inte-
17 grated cultural, historical, and recreational land resource
18 management programs in order to retain, enhance, and
19 interpret the significant features of the lands, water, and
20 structures of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley
21 in the State of Connecticut.

22 **SEC. 4. BOUNDARIES AND ADMINISTRATION.**

23 (a) BOUNDARIES.—The Boundaries of the Corridor
24 shall include the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury,
25 Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, Franklin, Griswold, Hamp-

1 ton, Killingly, Lebanon, Lisbon, Mansfield, Norwich,
2 Plainfield, Pomfret, Preston, Putnam, Scotland, Sprague,
3 Sterling, Thompson, Voluntown, Windham, and Wood-
4 stock. As soon as practical after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in
6 the Federal Register a detailed description and map of
7 boundaries established under this subsection.

8 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Corridor shall be admin-
9 istered in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

10 **SEC. 5. QUINEBAUG AND SHETUCKET RIVERS VALLEY NA-**
11 **TIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION.**

12 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established
13 within the Department of the Interior the Quinebaug and
14 Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Com-
15 mission (referred to in this Act as the “Commission”).
16 The Commission shall assist appropriate Federal, State,
17 regional planning organizations, and local authorities in
18 the development and implementation of an integrated re-
19 source management plan for the lands and water as speci-
20 fied in section 3.

21 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be com-
22 prised of 19 members appointed not later than 6 months
23 after the date of enactment of this Act as follows:

24 (1) The Director of the National Park Service
25 ex officio (or his delegate).

1 (2) 3 individuals appointed by the Secretary
2 after consultation with the governor, who shall rep-
3 resent the interests of—

4 (A) the Connecticut Department of Envi-
5 ronmental Protection,

6 (B) the Connecticut Historical Commis-
7 sion, and

8 (C) the Connecticut Department of Eco-
9 nomic Development.

10 (3) 6 individuals representing the interests of
11 local government or regional planning organizations
12 from Connecticut appointed by the Secretary after
13 consultation with the Governor, of whom, 3 shall be
14 representatives of the 3 regional planning organiza-
15 tions within the Corridor region and 3 shall be local
16 elected officials from the region.

17 (4) 9 individuals from the general public, who
18 are citizens of the State of Connecticut, appointed
19 by the Secretary, after consultation with the Gov-
20 ernor, representing conservation, business, tourism,
21 and recreational interests.

22 A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner
23 in which the original appointments were made.

24 (c) TERMS.—(1) Members of the Commission shall
25 be appointed for terms of 3 years and may be reappointed.

1 (2) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring
2 before the expiration of the term for which his predecessor
3 was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder
4 of such term. Any member of the Commission appointed
5 for a definite term may serve after the expiration of his
6 term until his successor has taken office.

7 (d) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Commission
8 shall receive no pay on account of their service on the
9 Commission but while away from their homes or regular
10 places of business in the performance of services for the
11 Commission, members of the Commission shall be allowed
12 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,
13 in the same manner as persons employed intermittently
14 in the Government service are allowed expenses under sec-
15 tion 5703 of title 5, United State Code.

16 (e) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Commis-
17 sion shall be elected by the members of the Commission.

18 (f) QUORUM.—(1) 8 members of the Commission
19 shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold
20 hearings.

21 (2) The affirmative vote of not less than 10 members
22 of the Commission shall be required to approve the budget
23 of the Commission.

24 (g) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold its first
25 meeting not later than 90 days after the date on which

1 its members are appointed, and shall meet at least quar-
2 terly at the call of the chairperson or 10 of its members.
3 Meetings of the Commission shall be subject to section
4 552(b) of title 5, United States Code (relating to open
5 meetings).

6 (h) PROXY.—Any member of the Commission may
7 vote by means of a signed proxy exercised by another
8 member of the Commission, but any member so voting
9 shall not be considered present for purposes of establish-
10 ing a quorum.

11 **SEC. 6. STAFF OF THE COMMISSION.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) The Commission shall have
13 the power to appoint and fix compensation of such staff
14 as may be necessary to carry out its duties.

15 (2) Staff appointed by the Commission—

16 (A) shall be appointed subject to the provisions
17 of title 5, United States Code, governing appoint-
18 ments in the competitive service; and

19 (B) shall be paid in accordance with provisions
20 of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of
21 such title relating to classification and General
22 Schedule pay rates.

23 (b) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—Subject to such
24 rules as may be adopted by the Commission, the Commis-
25 sion may procure temporary and intermittent services to

1 the same extent as is authorized by section 3109(b) of title
2 5, United States Code, but at rates determined by the
3 Commission to be reasonable.

4 (c) STAFF OF OTHER AGENCIES.—(1) Upon request
5 of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may
6 detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of
7 such agency to the Commission to assist the Commission
8 in carrying out the Commission's duties.

9 (2) The Commission may accept the service of per-
10 sonnel detailed from the State, any political subdivision
11 and regional planning organizations, and may reimburse
12 the State, political subdivision, and regional planning or-
13 ganizations for those services.

14 **SEC. 7. POWERS OF COMMISSION.**

15 (a) HEARINGS.—(1) The Commission may, for the
16 purposes of carrying out this Act, hold hearings, sit and
17 act at such times and places, take such testimony, and
18 receive such evidence, as the Commission considers appro-
19 priate.

20 (2) The Commission may not issue subpoenas or ex-
21 ercise any subpoena authority.

22 (b) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any mem-
23 ber or agent of the Commission, if so authorized by the
24 Commission, may take any action which the Commission
25 is authorized to take by this Act.

1 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Ad-
2 ministrator of the General Services Administration shall
3 provide to the Commission on a reimbursable basis, such
4 administrative support services as the Commission may re-
5 quest.

6 (d) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United
7 States mails in the same manner and under the same con-
8 ditions as other departments and other agencies of the
9 United States.

10 (e) USE OF FUNDS TO OBTAIN MONEY.—The Com-
11 mission may use its funds to obtain money from any
12 source under any program or law requiring the recipient
13 of such money to make a contribution in order to receive
14 such money.

15 (f) GIFTS.—Except as provided in subsection
16 (g)(2)(B), the Commission may, for purposes of carrying
17 out its duties, seek, accept, and dispose of gifts, bequests,
18 or donations of money, personal property, or services, re-
19 ceived from any source: *Provided*, That such gifts are used
20 for public purposes.

21 (g) ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—(1) Except
22 as provided in paragraph (2) and except with respect to
23 any leasing of facilities under subsection (c), the Commis-
24 sion may not acquire any real property or interest in real
25 property.

1 (2) Subject to paragraph (3), the Commission may
2 acquire real property or interest in real property in the
3 Corridor—

4 (A) by gift or devise; or

5 (B) by purchase from a willing seller with
6 money that was given, appropriated, or bequeathed
7 to the Commission on the condition that such money
8 would be used to purchase real property, or interest
9 in real property, in the Corridor.

10 (3) Any real property or interest in real property ac-
11 quired by the Commission under paragraph (2) shall be
12 conveyed by the Commission to an appropriate public or
13 private land management agency, as determined by the
14 Commission. Any such conveyance shall be made—

15 (A) as soon as practicable after such acqui-
16 sition;

17 (B) without consideration; and

18 (C) on the condition that the real property or
19 interest in real property so conveyed is used for pub-
20 lic purposes.

21 (h) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—For purposes of
22 carrying out the plan, the Commission may enter into co-
23 operative agreements with the State of Connecticut, with
24 any political subdivision, or with any person or organiza-
25 tion. Any such cooperative agreement shall, at a minimum,

1 establish procedures for providing notice to the Commis-
2 sion of any action proposed by the State, such political
3 subdivision, or such person which may affect implementa-
4 tion of the plan referred to in section 8.

5 **SEC. 8. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.**

6 (a) PREPARATION OF PLAN.—Within 2 years after
7 the Commission conducts its first meeting, it shall submit
8 to the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Con-
9 necticut for review and approval of Cultural Heritage and
10 Corridor Management Plan. The Plan shall be based on
11 existing Federal, State, and local plans, but shall coordi-
12 nate those plans and present a unified historic preserva-
13 tion, interpretation, and recreational plan for the Cor-
14 ridor. The plan shall—

15 (1) provide an inventory which includes any
16 property in the Corridor which should be preserved,
17 restored, managed, developed, maintained, or ac-
18 quired because of its national historic or cultural or
19 recreational significance;

20 (2) recommend advisory standards and criteria
21 applicable to the construction, preservation, restora-
22 tion, alteration, and use of all properties within the
23 Corridor;

24 (3) develop an historic interpretation plan to in-
25 terpret the history of the Corridor;

1 (4) develop an inventory which includes existing
2 and potential recreational sites which are developed
3 or which could be developed along the Quinebaug
4 and Shetucket Rivers and their surrounding areas;

5 (5) recommend policies for resource manage-
6 ment which consider and detail application of appro-
7 priate land and water management techniques, in-
8 cluding but not limited to, the development of inter-
9 governmental cooperative agreements to protect the
10 Corridor's historical, cultural, recreational, scenic,
11 and natural resources in a manner consistent with
12 supporting appropriate and compatible economic re-
13 vitalization efforts;

14 (6) detail ways in which local, State, and Fed-
15 eral programs may best be coordinated to promote
16 the purposes of this Act; and

17 (7) contain a program for implementation of
18 the Plan by the State and its political subdivisions.

19 (b) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—After review and
20 approval of the Plan by the Secretary and the Governor
21 as provided in subsection (a), the Commission shall imple-
22 ment the Plan by taking appropriate steps to preserve and
23 interpret the historic resources, develop the recreational
24 resources of the Corridor and its surrounding area, and
25 to support public and private efforts in economic revital-

1 ization, consistent with the goals of the Plan. These steps
2 may include, but need not be limited to—

3 (1) assisting the State and local governmental
4 entities or regional planning organizations, and non-
5 profit organizations in preserving the Corridor and
6 ensuring appropriate use of lands and structures
7 throughout the Corridor;

8 (2) assisting the State and local governmental
9 entities or regional planning organizations, and non-
10 profit organizations in establishing, and maintaining
11 visitor centers and other interpretive exhibits in the
12 Corridor;

13 (3) assisting the State and local governmental
14 entities or regional planning organizations, and non-
15 profit organizations in developing recreational pro-
16 grams and resources in the Corridor;

17 (4) assisting the State and local governmental
18 entities or regional planning organizations, and non-
19 profit organizations in increasing public awareness
20 of and appreciation for the historical and architec-
21 tural resources and sites in the Corridor;

22 (5) assisting the State and local governmental
23 or regional planning organizations and nonprofit or-
24 ganizations in the restoration of any historic build-
25 ing in the Corridor;

1 (6) encouraging by appropriate means enhanced
2 economic and industrial development in the Corridor
3 consistent with the goals of the Plan;

4 (7) encouraging local governments to adopt
5 land use policies consistent with the management of
6 the Corridor and the goals of the Plan, and to en-
7 sure appropriate use of lands and structures
8 throughout the Corridor; and

9 (8) assisting the State and local governmental
10 entities or regional planning organizations to ensure
11 that clear, consistent signs identifying access points
12 and sites of interest are put in place throughout the
13 Corridor.

14 **SEC. 9. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.**

15 (a) TERMINATION.—Except as provided in subsection
16 (b), the Commission shall terminate on the day occurring
17 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

18 (b) EXTENSION.—The Commission may be extended
19 for a period of not more than 5 years beginning on the
20 day of termination referred to in subsection (a) if, not
21 later than 180 days before such day—

22 (1) the Commission determines such extension
23 is necessary in order to carry out the purposes of
24 this Act;

1 (2) the Commission submits such proposed ex-
2 tension to the Committee on Natural Resources of
3 the United States House of Representatives and the
4 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
5 United States Senate; and

6 (3) the Secretary, in consultation with the Gov-
7 ernor of Connecticut, approves such extension.

8 **SEC. 10. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

9 (a) APPROVAL OF PLAN.—The Secretary of the Inte-
10 rior, in consultation with the Governor of Connecticut,
11 shall approve or disapprove a Plan submitted under this
12 Act by the Commission not later than 60 days after receiv-
13 ing such Plan. The Secretary, in consultation with the
14 Governor, shall approve a Plan submitted if—

15 (1) they find the Plan, if implemented, would
16 adequately protect significant historical and cultural
17 resources of the Corridor while providing adequate
18 and appropriate outdoor recreational opportunities
19 and economic activities within the Corridor;

20 (2) they determine that the Commission held
21 public hearings and provided adequate opportunity
22 for public and governmental involvement in the prep-
23 aration of the Plan; and

24 (3) the Secretary receives adequate assurances
25 from appropriate State officials that the rec-

1 ommended implementation program identified in the
2 Plan will be initiated within a reasonable time after
3 date of approval of the Plan, and that such imple-
4 mentation program will ensure effective implementa-
5 tion of the State and local aspects of the Plan.

6 (b) DISAPPROVAL OF PLAN.—If the Secretary dis-
7 approves a Plan submitted to him by the Commission, he
8 shall advise the Commission in writing of the reasons
9 therefor and shall make recommendations for revisions in
10 the Plan. The Commission shall within 90 days of receipt
11 of such notice of disapproval revise and resubmit the plan
12 to the Secretary who shall approve or disapprove a pro-
13 posed revision within 60 days after the date it is submitted
14 to him.

15 (c) ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall,
16 upon request of the Commission, assist the Commission
17 in the preparation and implementation of Plan.

18 **SEC. 11. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL ENTITIES.**

19 Any Federal entity conducting or supporting activi-
20 ties directly affecting the Corridor shall—

21 (1) consult with the Secretary and the Commis-
22 sion with respect to such activities;

23 (2) cooperate with the Secretary and the Com-
24 mission with respect to such activities and, to the

1 maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activi-
2 ties; and

3 (3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct
4 or support such activities in a manner which the
5 Commission determines will not have an adverse ef-
6 fect on the Corridor.

7 **SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 (a) COMMISSION.—There is authorized to be appro-
9 priated \$200,000 for fiscal year 1994 and \$250,000 annu-
10 ally to the Commission to carry out its duties under this
11 Act except that the Federal contributions to the Commis-
12 sion shall not exceed 50 percent of the annual costs to
13 the Commission in carrying out those duties.

14 (b) SECRETARY.—There are authorized to be appro-
15 priated annually to the Secretary such sums as may be
16 necessary to carry out his duties under this Act.

17 **SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.**

18 For purposes of this Act—

19 (1) The term “Commission” means the
20 Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National
21 Heritage Corridor Commission established under
22 section 5.

23 (2) The term “State” means the State of Con-
24 necticut.

1 (3) The term “Corridor” means the Quinebaug
2 and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Cor-
3 ridor established under section 3.

4 (4) The term “Plan” means the Cultural Herit-
5 age and Corridor Management Plan to be prepared
6 by the Commission pursuant to section 8.

7 (5) The term “Governor” means the Governor
8 of the State of Connecticut.

9 (6) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
10 of the Interior.

11 (7) The term “regional planning organization”
12 means each of the 3 regional planning organizations
13 established by Connecticut State statute chapter 127
14 and chapter 50 (the Northeast Council of Govern-
15 ments, the Windham Regional Planning Agency or
16 its successor, and the Southeastern Connecticut Re-
17 gional Planning Agency or its successor).

Passed the House of Representatives September 13,
1993.

Attest: DONNALD K. ANDERSON,
Clerk.

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